

Fire and Water

R Y M V B C F F N B Q E Z T Q P Z N M T  
M B T K M J C L X F A Q X B G G L N U I  
H Y D R A N T N I Q S S U R Q J F P T R  
H P R E S S U R E T H G I L K N B N V Y  
E I D H P R E S C U E D M Z R E O H K E  
Y E Y S A T O H O E S P M R Z Y I Q W I  
N J U I R H G T C Z P J R K I V G B S W  
O A G U K E C I Y T R O Z V H E H O G B  
N K C G F W G R E T A W S A N I Y B X D  
N K T N V I F Y M X Y M Z R N K K W U A  
Q M P I O B H I V I O E U U Z J P Z I W  
T A Z T U Z R R J K E B G X X A Q D A I  
V J I X Q I Z S E B B O L C V Q M M L P  
I Y R E D D A L H L R J F R H M M O W I  
K M B B T L V C E C E F K E H E O P N H  
J A T D I I D W W E S F Z U B R E M M E  
O D G U D C N M Y M X Q B U M Z B W M O  
S U B D Q N O G N A Y V H C X P K Q T Z  
O O D N F E V F I J H X Y J T I G X H Q  
Y J L S M O U G R Z I O R O D A X H U I

ASHES	LADDER	RUBBLE
BURN	LIGHTER	SMOKE
EXTINGUISHER	MATCH	SPARK
FIRETRUCK	MATCHES	SPRAY
HOSE	NOZZLE	WATER
HYDRANT	PRESSURE	
IGNITE	RESCUE	



10

Most Annoying Celebrities

Carrot Top

Glenn Beck

David Arquette

Dr. Phil

Michael Moore

Miley Cyrus

Paris Hilton

Ty Pennington

Tyra Banks

Tom Cruise

THE UNDERGROUND

The Unofficial Student Publication of Missouri State University

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October 2009  
Volume II; Issue 2  
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## Missouri State sports briefs

Reporting by Matt Evans

**Football**

Missouri State evened their record to 2-2, losing to the University of Northern Iowa 35-7 in Missouri Valley Conference play last Saturday in front of over 15,000 fans at Plaster Sports Complex.

The crowd was the ninth largest ever for a Missouri State football game.

UNI, ranked third in the nation coming into the game, picked up where they left off in last year’s 42-0 beat down of the Bears and established a comfortable 21-0 lead at halftime and coasted to the end of the game.

The Bears were finally able to get on the board with seven seconds left to go on a five-yard touchdown pass from Cody Kirby to Clay Harbor.

The Bears, now 0-1 in the Missouri Valley Conference, head to Youngstown State the first weekend of October for another tough Missouri Valley Conference matchup. In their previous game, the Penguins, 3-1, shut out Indiana State 28-0.

**Ice Hockey**

The Missouri State Ice Bears opened up their season with an impressive sweep of Eastern Illinois.

The Bears beat the Panthers 9-2 on Sept. 25, with Senior BJ Norman putting up three of the Bears’ nine goals.

The Ice Bears continued their dominance in Saturday’s matchup, handing Eastern Illinois their second loss of the season 8-3.

Missouri State plays on home ice for the first weekend of October in a two-game series against the Ferris State Bulldogs at Mediacom Ice Park.

The first game starts at 7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 2, and the second will be at 7 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 3.

**Cross Country**

The Missouri State Cross Country team hit the ground running, literally, finishing first in their opening dual against the SBU Bearcats and finishing fourth overall in the Missouri State Classic.

Led by Sophomore Terry Philips, who was named the Missouri Valley Conference Cross Country Athlete of the Week on September 22, the Bears will head to Chicago on Saturday, Oct. 3, to compete in the Sean Earl Lakefront Invitational.

## Advocating for peace worldwide

I am a spoiled child. And if you’re reading, it’s likely you are too. Why is that? For one, you were born in the most privileged nation on the planet. Second, it’s likely you grew up in a relatively happy environment, and third, we have never experienced a fraction of the hardship much of the world endures daily.

Not to fault you for your birth; I believe all people should be treated the same irrespective of their origins. But because we are sheltered, we see the world through a cloudy lens, fogged up by our ignorance and naivety. That perspective isn’t shared by those whose lives are marred and tattered from violence, conflict, and war.

Violence begets violence, and many people who have pain forced on them propagate that struggle in their lives. Some would say that the nature of man is conflict. In a word, war. But violence is not strictly an evolutionary trait. It is a culture we learn through societal values and mores. And it is something we can unlearn, in time, with our words, our actions and our lives.

Building a sustainable society of peace is a monumental challenge; in fact it goes against the competitive mentality of selfishness that is celebrated by everyone who has something to lose and is cursed by everyone who has nothing to protect. But in a cooperative spirit of altruism, where we analyze the problems we are each facing, we can be real peace builders by addressing the causes of conflict rather than the symptoms of injustice.

The Student Peace Alliance advocates for a US Department of Peace and Non-Violence that will address the root causes that we are facing at home and abroad. Terrible circumstances in our country give rise to problems like domestic violence, juvenile crime and gangs. Despite our overwhelming military presence around the world, conflict zones fester and escalate into the wars of tomorrow. A US Department of Peace is an institutional way to address these issues at the highest levels of government and to examine the means to solve issues before they destroy lives and continue the cycle of violence.

Beyond that, SPA is a way for like-minded students to get together for the things they believe in. We will find



ways to impact our community with the values of our mission; integrity, compassion, courage, creativity, and community. And by our influence, we will pass on and promote those values among others.

There is a paralyzing amount of apathy among fortunate people who take their rights and freedoms for granted. The most capable people in the world become the most useless when they think this way. The insidious thought that “I can’t change anything,” is what keeps real change from happening, the sort of change that goes beyond a campaign slogan into something that affects people’s lives.

You have the chance every day to go outside your sheltered, privileged life and be the difference the world needs. Changing the world starts with changing yourself. Student Peace Alliance is a way to help that happen. If you are interested, please contact me at PeaceMSU@gmail.com.



## Food stamp program should cut junk food

Soda pop. Potato chips. Candy. Pork rinds.

What do all these foods have in common?

Besides being totally unhealthy, all of the above are also food stamp eligible.

In other words, millions of U.S. taxpayer dollars are going to feed the junk food addictions of our nation’s poorest.

And this is for a program designed to help “low-income people and families buy the food they need for good health,” according to the USDA website.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, illnesses attributed to obesity accounted for 9.1 percent of all U.S. medical expenses (\$78.5 billion) in 1998. Half of those costs were billed to Medicare and Medicaid.

The taxpayers are getting drilled both ways.

Granted, you can buy fruits, vegetables, milk, bread and other healthy products with food stamps cards.

However, I’ve worked in several grocery stores and I can tell you that in my experience the majority of food stamp money went straight to the pop, chip and candy isles.

Even if my experience is an aberration and the majority of our food stamp recipients do use the money for healthy food, why do we even make junk food an option for the program?

Toilet paper. Deodorant. Tooth paste. Shampoo.

What do these have in common?

None of the above products are food stamp eligible.

However, I would say all of these products are much more essential to “good health” than pop and candy.

It is not that I oppose a person’s right to eat junk food if they want. Heck, I love junk food. I just don’t think the taxpayers should be footing the bill.

Food stamps don’t cover alcohol or cigarettes. People on the program have to pay for those products out of their own pocket. Junk food should be in the same category.

Obesity is a big enough problem in this country right now. Our food stamp program is only making it worse. Time to end pork rind spending. Cut the junk.



Zach Becker

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Nate Bassett



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**About Us:** *The Underground* is an independent student publication. Written and produced by a staff of student volunteers, *The Underground* is neither funded nor officially recognized by Missouri State University. It prints once-a-month, with online updates in the interim. The newspaper is distributed on the MSU campus and at select local businesses. All articles are available online.

**Submissions:** Letters to the editor can be sent via email or postal mail. Letters must include name, address, class or title and telephone number for verification purposes. *The Underground* reserves the right to edit letters to the editor and publication is not guaranteed.

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# E-books lack character

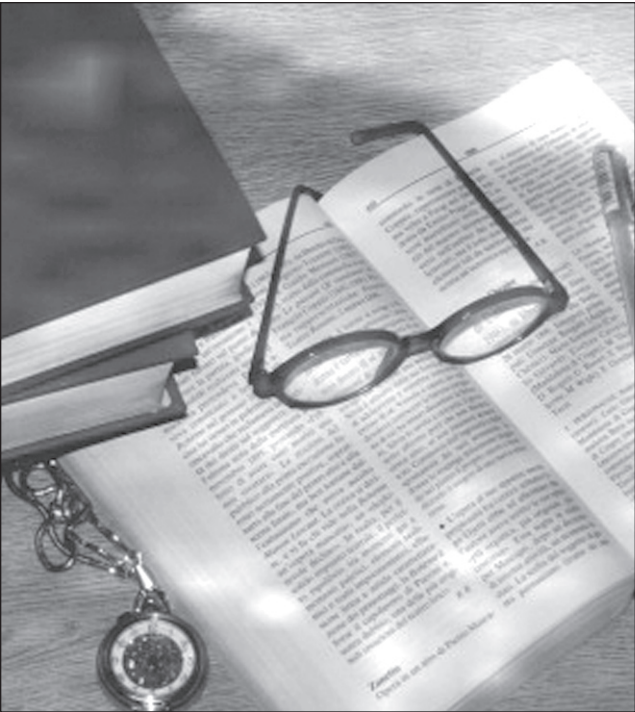
Seriously, what’s the deal with e-books? I recently read an article about all the advantages of these “electronic books” and how they were going to change the face of education and make reading available to everyone. Um, sorry, but since when was reading *not* available to everyone? Pretty sure books aren’t hard to come by. We have libraries, which are free. This means everyone can read them. I just want to cry when I think about how in 20 or 30 years, most textbooks will be available only online. What is going to happen to studying outside? Are libraries going to turn into computer labs? People that promote e-books clearly haven’t lain outside underneath a tree with a beloved book in hand. Can you imagine the future of this scenario? “Dangit, the glare from the sun is totally making it hard to see my computer screen.” “Ants are getting

in my keyboard!” “I don’t want to sit my computer on grass...” The winy possibilities are endless. And what about reading in the bathtub? Not an option. What if you were careless and dropped your computer in the tub? It would be a disaster. And what if you need to look something up quickly and discreetly? Forget opening a book quietly and checking it out. Oh no, those days are gone. Haul out the laptop, open it up, make that annoying typing noise and find it. And everyone knows what you’re doing. Underlining a favorite passage? No, now there is electronic *highlighting*. Somebody bugging you while you’re walking? Well, while you used to be able to use a lovely heavy textbook to hit their elbow, now you can’t because you’ll damage your computer. Call me a book purist, but there really is nothing like sitting with

a good book in my hands. It’s the weight of it; the smell of a new book; the sound you hear when you crack a new binding open; the feel of that heavy paper in your hands with the tiny raised letters of black ink all over the surface; taking a pen and writing in the margins what you think a certain passage means. Books are beautiful and we should value them. The computer has already taken over so much of our lives. I vote we keep our novels, poems, autobiographies, textbooks, and essays in the form they were meant to take— in a book.



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**THE UNDERGROUND**

The Unofficial Student Publication of Missouri State University

# Rec Center to break ground next semester

by Zach Becker  
She pauses, reflects, and smiles. Director of Campus Recreation Cindi Barnett’s dream is close to becoming a reality. It started as mere speculative conversation between her and some of the student workers in Campus Recreation six years ago and, through years of dedication, she has helped it materialize into the roughly \$23 million and over 90,000 square feet University Recreation Center set to break ground next semester. The facility, which will be located near JQH Arena where tennis courts now stand, will have an indoor jogging track, basketball courts, multipurpose rooms, a fitness center, a swimming pool, locker rooms, and a climbing wall, among other features. “It’s just real exciting for me,” said Barnett, her passion and enthusiasm for the

project evident in her voice. “Being in on all the planning; thinking about what do we want, where we want it in the building.” However, she is most excited for the students of Missouri State. “More than anything, I think the students are going to embrace it,” she said. “Obviously, we have recreation all over the campus, but we don’t have a central place for students. It’s kind of the next step as far as Campus Recreation goes. “Once it opens, the students will be going, ‘Yeah, we needed this. This is Missouri State.’” Growing Campus Recreation from its origins in a small, nondescript office in Plaster Student Union, Barnett takes great pride in the myriad of services her department now provides and the new facility it will soon call home. “Campus Rec used to be a very, very little

tiny room,” she said. “Nobody knew it was there; didn’t even have a sign on the wall. The only activity that we did for students at that time recreation-wise was fraternity intramurals. We have all kinds of things for students to do now.” Today, Campus Recreation provides countless activities for students, in everything from intramural basketball to Kung Fu to ballroom dance to hiking. Through it all, Barnett has kept Campus Recreation focused on its customers, the students. From the initial planning stages of the University Recreation Center, student input has dictated which features will and will not be included. “We’ve had to pick and choose,” Barnett said. “We went to the students and said, ‘You tell us.’” Through surveys and presentations to

focus groups, students showed strong support for a state-of-the-art recreation center and showed they were willing to pay for the new facility through the passage of a student fee referendum in Fall 2006. The project was originally slated as an estimated \$16.5 million renovation of McDonald Arena. However, state budget cuts forced a change of plans. Given students had already began to pay the student fee in Fall 2007 for the promised University Recreation Center, plans for an all-new facility were developed instead. The construction project should take about 18 months, giving the facility a projected opening for Fall 2011. Students who graduate before the completion of the rec enter will be allowed to come back and use the facility for a time equal to the number of semesters they paid into the building’s student fee.



Image Courtesy of Campus Retreation  
An artist’s rendering of the future University Recreation Center.





*Photos by Mandy Bangert*  
The band Assembly Line Gods performs at the Four-FourFest in downtown Springfield on Sept. 19. The band includes Missouri State students Carson Underwood on drums and Josh Kroeger on base. The singer is David Samples and the guitarist is E.B. Cox.